



# GLOBAL HEALTH CONNECTIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# Together We Can...

## Connect Communities to Innovative Health Initiatives and Economic Sustainability Programs





# WELCOME TO GLOBAL HEALTH CONNECTIONS

WE ARE A UNIQUE ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO PROMOTING HEALTH EDUCATION AND FOSTERING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN WESTERN KENYA.

OUR APPROACH ISN'T ABOUT GIVING HANDOUTS OR DOING THE WORK FOR COMMUNITIES—IT'S ABOUT TEACHING, GUIDING, AND EMPOWERING THEM TO SOLVE BOTH PRESENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES.

WE HOLD DEEP RESPECT FOR THE PEOPLE WE SERVE AND BELIEVE IN THEIR REMARKABLE CAPACITY TO UPLIFT THEMSELVES AND THEIR VILLAGES.

JOIN US ON THIS TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY...







# 2024 AT A GLANCE





VILLAGES WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH AND  
EMPOWERMENT CLUBS (CHECs):

19

VILLAGERS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A CHEC:

1,082

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC PROJECTS STARTED:

41

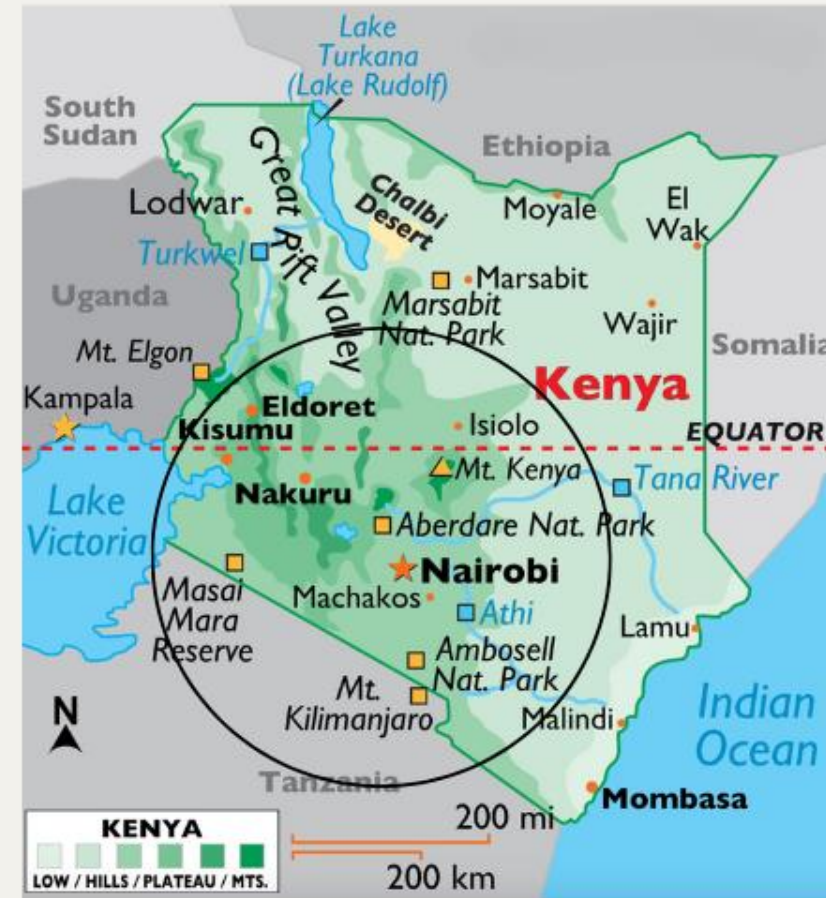
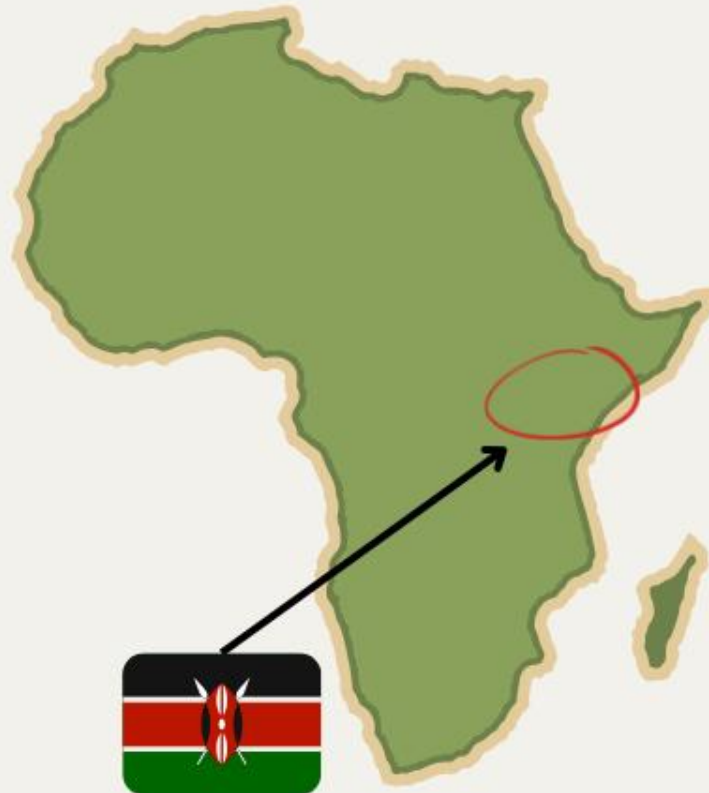
KENYANS IMPACTED BY CHECs:

OVER 12,800

ADOPT A VILLAGE DONORS:

4 TOTAL, 2 NEW IN 2024

# WHERE WE WORK



GHC does a majority of its work within western Kenya, primarily in the Kisii, Nyamira, and Homa Bay Counties. We just initiated a new, pilot CHEC in Kajiado County and one on Mfangano Island, on Lake Victoria.



# Our 14 Active Villages

**Denotes a new village in 2024**

**\*Denotes a village with a Greener Hills Honey Cooperative Apiary**

## 4 Villages in Homa Bay County:

**Maugo**  
**Soklo (Mfangano)**  
Kanyamfwa  
Kanyipir

## 1 Village in Kajiado County:

**Kimuka**

## 9 Villages in Kisii & Nyamira Counties:

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>*Mokubo</b>    | <b>*Nyasumi</b>    |
| <b>*Kegati</b>    | <b>*Nyanturago</b> |
| <b>*Ititi</b>     | <b>*Nyamecheo</b>  |
| <b>*Tabaka</b>    | <b>*Nyamagesa</b>  |
| <b>Nyamokenye</b> |                    |

# Our 5 Self-Sustaining Villages

*\*Denotes a village with a Greener Hills Honey Cooperative Apiary*

## 2 Villages in Homa Bay County:

**Olare**  
**Kanyadhiang**

## 3 Villages in Kisii County:

**\*Biombe**  
**\*Kiagware**  
**Itierio**

What is a “Self-Sustaining Village? GHC's goal is to empower villages to become self-reliant. Initially, villages receive comprehensive support (active phase). Over time, through capacity building and resource development, they transition to managing their affairs independently (self-sustaining phase), reflecting the success of GHC's empowerment model.



**END GOAL:  
CHEC IS  
SUSTAINABLE  
AND THRIVING**

**BASELINE HEALTH,  
ECONOMIC &  
SOCIAL  
SURVEYING**

**ENDLINE  
SURVEYING**

**24-WEEK HEALTH  
CURRICULUM**

**INCOME PROJECTS  
FLOURISHING**

**OUR  
COMMUNITY  
HEALTH &  
EMPOWERMENT  
MODEL**

**HEALTH  
GRADUATION**

**MIDLINE  
SURVEYING**

**FORMATION OF  
INCOME-  
GENERATING  
GROUPS**

**FORMATION OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
GOVERNANCE  
COMMITTEES**

**10-WEEK  
ECONOMIC  
CURRICULUM**

**OUR  
PROGRAMMATIC  
SOLUTION**



## 24 Week Health Curriculum

Our 24-Week Program covers topics such as WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), nutrition, disease prevention, and more.

We train CHEC members on the importance of sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, and disease prevention. To measure behavior change, we compare and analyze data collected through our baseline, midline, and endline survey tools.

Additionally, we focus on building model kitchen gardens, latrines, and tippy tap handwashing stations.



## 10 Week Economic and Curriculum

Our 10-Week Program covers topics such as entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and business financing.

Each village has its own unique needs and resources. Our team carefully considers existing conditions, terrain, and population to determine which economic programs will best serve each community. As a result, a variety of projects—such as beekeeping, soap making, chicken farming, and Napier grass cultivation—may be implemented.



# THE GHC DIFFERENCE & COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE...

Local, On the Ground Expertise

Analytics to Measure Impact

Household Follow-up for Accountability

Health Training, Along with Economic Training and Income Generation

Traditional and Non-traditional Revenue Generation

Focus on Empowerment and Increasing Social Capital

Sustainable Governance







VILLAGE HIGHLIGHT:

NYAMECHEO





NYAMECHEO IS GLOBAL HEALTH CONNECTIONS 8TH VILLAGE TO DATE, AND OUR 4<sup>TH</sup> ADOPT-A-VILLAGE CLUB. IT IS LOCATED IN KISII COUNTY, AND HAS AROUND 1,000 VILLAGERS. IT IS ROUGHLY 30 KM SOUTHEAST OF KISII TOWN.



# NYAMECHO CHEC: A SUCCESS STORY



- Baseline surveys revealed challenges with clean water, nutrition, and sanitation, but the community demonstrated a strong commitment to growth and improvement.
- Members received training in essential health skills, including making detergent, constructing kitchen gardens, and building latrines and shower stalls.
- 70 members successfully graduated from the 24-week health curriculum and advanced to financial literacy training, ultimately choosing beekeeping as their income-generating project.
- The group established a thriving 50-hive apiary, with eight trained apiary managers leading sub-groups in hive maintenance, inspection, and honey harvesting.
- Nyamecheo's dedication, resilience, and achievements position it as one of our most impactful and promising CHECs.





NYAMECHEO CHEC MEMBERS LEARN HOW TO BUILD THE MODEL KITCHEN GARDEN SO THEY CAN EMULATE ONE ON THEIR OWN PROPERTY.

A NYAMACHEO CHEC MEMBER STANDS BY HER NEWLY BUILT DISH DRYING RACK.







A MEMBER STANDS BY HER NEW DRYING RACK.



IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE FOUND  
THROUGHOUT NYAMECHEO VILLAGE:  
CLEAN AND SWEEP INTERIORS AND  
HAND WASHING STATIONS OUTSIDE  
LATRINES.





# APIARY: ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

All 70 members of the Nyamecheo CHEC chose beekeeping as their income-generating project. Together, they built a thriving apiary on land generously donated by one of their members. We trained eight dedicated apiary managers, each overseeing a sub-group of 8–9 members. These sub-groups are responsible for maintaining, inspecting, and harvesting honey from 6–7 hives each.



NYAMACHEO CHEC MEMBERS RECEIVE THEIR FIRST  
SHIPMENT OF HIVES.





THE NYAMECHEO APIARY, CAPTURED DURING VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION, IS IDEALLY LOCATED IN A LUSH VALLEY ABUNDANT WITH FLOWERING TREES—AN OPTIMAL ENVIRONMENT FOR BEES. WITH ALL 50 HIVES SUCCESSFULLY COLONIZED, WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL OF THIS THRIVING APIARY TO BECOME A CORNERSTONE OF SUSTAINABLE INCOME AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP FOR THE COMMUNITY.





The image shows a vibrant garden scene. In the foreground, there are several tall, slender green plants with long, narrow leaves, possibly irises or similar species, growing alongside other leafy green plants. Behind the plants is a wooden lattice fence made of horizontal and vertical slats. Above the fence, a corrugated metal roof is visible, and in the background, there are more trees and foliage under a clear sky. The overall atmosphere is bright and natural.

# THE COMPLETED 50 HIVE NYAMECHEO APIARY



A photograph of a wooden structure, possibly a beehive or a small shed, with a corrugated metal roof and chain-link fencing. The structure is built with wooden poles and is situated in a forest. The text "VILLAGE OPPORTUNITY: BEEKEEPING" is overlaid on the image.

# VILLAGE OPPORTUNITY:

## BEEKEEPING



# BEEKEEPING

GHC has supported ten villages in establishing apiaries and trained 64 apiary managers in collaboration with the National Institutes of Beekeeping. Across these villages, we now have 450 hives and over 670 club members actively engaged in beekeeping.

In our second year, we successfully harvested and sold over 415 liters of honey, and we project a harvest exceeding 1,700 liters in 2025. The revenue generated will offer a sustainable and supplemental income source for these communities.



Additionally, we are fostering native pollinator habitats and enhancing biodiversity to support both honeybees and wild bee species.







GHC OPPORTUNITY:  
GREENER HILLS HONEY COOPERATIVE

  @nyaboketina



# GREENER HILLS HONEY

Economic empowerment is a core pillar of the GHC CHEC model. Through Greener Hills, we've created an opportunity for CHEC members to generate income, while contributing to environmental sustainability through beekeeping.

As a supporting organization of Global Health Connections, Greener Hills supports members in:

- Building apiaries and providing beekeeping training.
- Harvesting, processing, and selling honey under the Greener Hills Honey Cooperative label.
- Sharing profits directly with villages.





## Our Impact So Far:

- Built 10 apiaries with 460 hives; 4 are now operating independently and sustainably.
- 64 trained apiary managers and 670+ members engaged in beekeeping.
- Harvested over 415 liters in 2024 and estimate more than double that in 2025.

It's a win-win model—  
sustainable for both people  
and the planet.

[WWW.GREENERHILLSHONEY.ORG](http://WWW.GREENERHILLSHONEY.ORG)



# GREENER HILLS HONEY

*a Global Health Connections initiative*



# VILLAGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Expanded Our Reach: Launched 4 new CHECs, including 2 remote pilot projects, bringing our total to 19 villages, with 15 actively engaged.
- Proven Impact: Endline survey data from 3 villages show significant improvements in health, economic, and social indicators, confirming sustainable behavior change.
- Thriving Enterprises: Income-generating projects like beekeeping, rice farming, tailoring, and quarry mining continue to flourish, with members also starting their own small businesses.
- Collective Growth: Merry-go-round funding and table banking have helped members purchase goats, mattresses, and household essentials, improving their quality of life.
- Strengthening Leadership: 5 villages are now self-sustaining, and active CHEC committees are learning to lead and manage operations independently for long-term success.





# ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched two pilot projects in 2024, with CHECs led by local instructors trained remotely by GHC on the CHEC model—empowering community leaders to drive change.
- Greener Hills Honey Cooperative currently manages over 380 hives across six apiaries, with four now operating independently and sustainably
- Strengthened governing boards in Denver and Kenya with key new members in 2024.Improved financial sustainability through grants (Rotary, Google), donations, and Adopt-a-Village.
- Developed a CHEC 'product' solution over several months to help other organizations replicate the CHEC model.
- Statistical analysis of CHEC programs shows:
  - Significant positive impacts on health behaviors.
  - Improved economic stability for households.
  - Empowerment of women at the household and village level.
  - Decreased incidence of domestic violence at the household and village level.



# OUR BOARDS

## USA

### Board of Directors

Dr. Blair Gifford, PhD, Chairman  
Holly Church  
Dr. David Davis, M.D.  
Suzanne Dircksen  
Scott Eggerding  
Adam Frange  
Erin Maruzzella  
Dr. Nancy Mulligan, PhD  
Carrie Paykoc  
Colin Smith  
Lee Van Slyke

### Officers of the Board

Blair Gifford, Chairman  
Holly Church, Vice Chairman  
Suzanne Dircksen, Secretary

## Kenya

### Board of Directors

David Monari, Chair  
Monica Orwochi,  
Vice Chair  
Ken Martins,  
Treasurer  
Faith Mageto,  
Secretary  
David Simba, Board  
member





# OUR TEAM

**OUR TEAM IS SMALL, BUT MIGHTY. WE ARE COMPRISED OF INTELLIGENT, GENEROUS, HARD-  
WORKING PEOPLE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO CHANGING A SMALL PIECE OF OUR WORLD  
TOGETHER.**

Mimi Gordon,  
Executive Director -  
USA

Michael Graham-  
Hyde, Treasurer –  
USA

Faith Mageto,  
Executive Director –  
Kisii, Kenya

Christine Nyaboke,  
Regional Coordinator –  
Kisii, Kenya

Mark Orondo, Project  
Officer – Kisii, Kenya

Salome Nyariro,  
Regional  
Coordinator –  
Homa Bay, Kenya

Quinter Obunga,  
Project Officer –  
Homa Bay, Kenya

Lynn Sintent,  
Regional  
Coordinator –  
Kajiado, Kenya

Grace Namunyak,  
Asst. Project Officer –  
Kajiado, Kenya





# FINANCIALS

Though we are a small operation, our vision is bold, and our growth ambitions are high. Since the beginning, we've been powered by the generosity of private donors and grant funding that sustain our programs and operations.

Our commitment to empowering individuals through health, economic, and social initiatives continues to drive this invaluable support. From passionate donors and dedicated fundraisers to resilient community clubs and loyal volunteers, we've built a network that believes in one thing: true change happens when we teach, empower, and grow together toward a sustainable and prosperous future.





# 2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

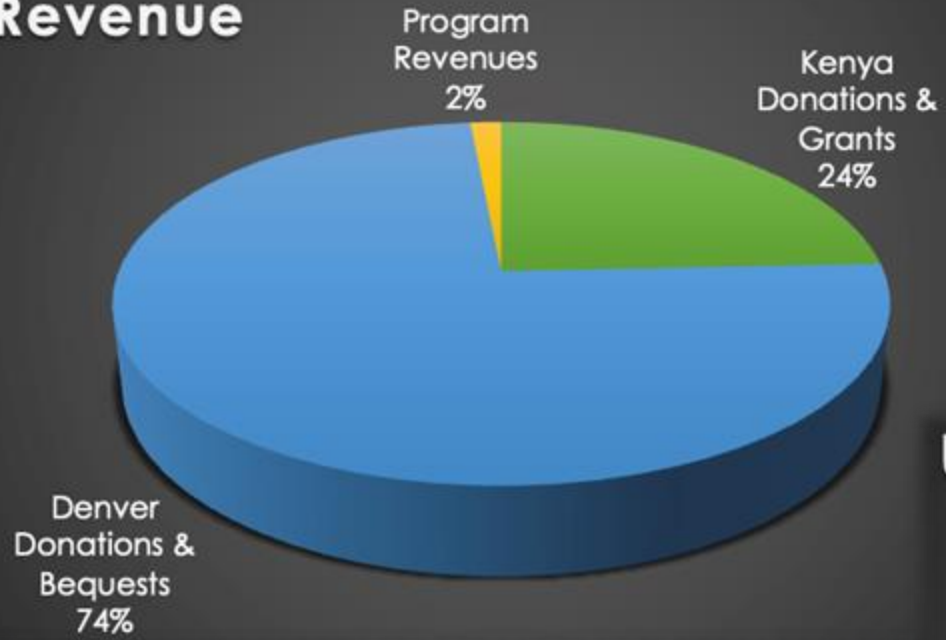


- **Total Operating Expenses: \$ 148,583.57**
  - **Total Revenue: \$202,347.46**

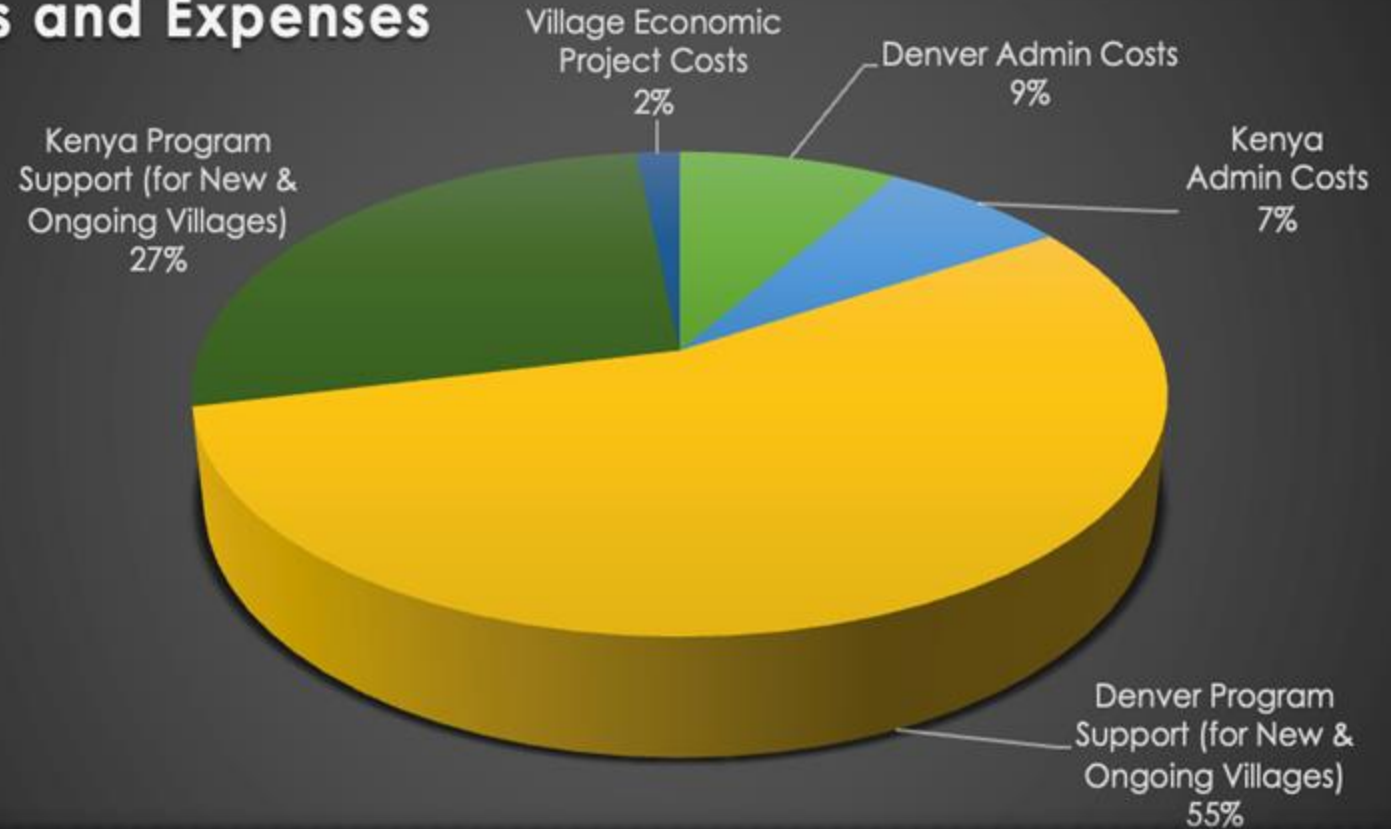
- We keep our operating costs in both Denver and Kenya as low as possible. In Denver, these costs primarily cover extensive village surveys, detailed data analysis, and operational expenses.
- Most grants and donations go directly toward establishing new villages, supporting economic projects, covering ongoing village expenses, and providing direct assistance to these initiatives.
- Adopt-a-Village and Apiary sponsors play a crucial role in sustaining the operations of their sponsored villages.
- A **\$96,000 18-month Rotary International Global Grant** received in August 2024 is **not** included in our operating expenses and revenue. These funds, kept in a separate account, are designated for four new CHECs. By the end of 2024, we had spent approximately **\$27,000** of this grant.



## Sources of Revenue



## Uses and Expenses





# What Motivates Us?

At GHC, our mission is to connect communities to innovative health initiatives and economic sustainability programs.

Our vision is to create sustainable villages—communities that are healthy, economically thriving, and self-sufficient, equipped to govern and flourish for years to come. We're dedicated to building a framework that supports long-term growth, resilience, and empowerment.

The progress we've witnessed—from improved health outcomes to increased financial stability and overall well-being—continues to inspire us. This visible transformation fuels our passion and drives our mission forward. Simply put, our club members are the heart of our motivation, reminding us why we show up every single day.



As 2024 comes to a close, we reflect on the unbelievable year we have had.

**GHC's Future is Bright!**

In 2025, we look forward to...







- **Expanding Our Reach:** Offering our proven CHEC model as a replicable package to other organizations, enabling them to implement the approach in their own communities and scale its impact globally.
- **Raising Awareness:** Amplifying understanding of GHC's impactful CHEC model and its transformative results.
- **Sharing Our Impact:** Publishing data-driven results in a new book, which will showcase improvements in household health, financial stability, and empowerment through CHEC programs.
- **Strengthening Leadership:** Empowering Sustainable Governance Committees across all CHEC villages to ensure long-term self-sufficiency and leadership continuity.



- **Growing Support Networks:** Expanding our Adopt-a-Village/Apiary program with 2-3 additional sponsors to support CHEC growth.
- **Enhancing Social Enterprises:** Advancing income-generating projects such as honey processing, poultry farming, and fish farming to boost local economies. These enterprises not only improve household incomes but also contribute to GHC's long-term organizational sustainability.
- **Building Strategic Partnerships:** Collaborating with leading organizations like Center for Global Health at UC Denver, Organic Health Response, HEART Africa, Rotary International, AquaClara, and National Beekeeping Institute to maximize our impact.

*Join us on our journey as we continue to empower communities, transform lives, and create lasting change—one village at a time.*

